

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 12, and 15 are amended by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 12, and 15 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-5, 8, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Agraharam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,482, hereinafter Agraharam) in view of Porter et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,675,299, hereinafter Porter); and Claims 6, 7, 9-11, and 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Agraharam in view of Porter and further in view of Erdelyi et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20040056879, hereinafter Erdelyi).

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Agraharam in view of Porter, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 1 recites in part:

communication means for transmitting the data
acquired by said acquisition means simultaneously to all of
those of the information processing apparatuses **currently**
accessing the shared server and belonging to a same group
(Emphasis added.)

The outstanding Office Action cited Agraharam as describing “communication means” at paragraph 16.² However, Agraharam describes a system where a “conductor” at conductor session terminal (201) selects the client terminals (103) and (104) that will receive selected documents by including these terminals on a participation list (PL).³ Agraharam describes that **only** terminals on this participation list receive the content, **not all of the**

¹See, e.g. the specification at page 20, lines 3-20 and Figure 9.

²See outstanding Office Action, page 3, lines 9-10.

³See Agraharam, paragraph 27.

*terminals currently accessing a shared server.*⁴ Thus, Agraharam does not teach or suggest “communication means” as defined in amended Claim 1.

Porter describes a document management system that *prevents* multiple users from accessing a document at the same time.⁵ Thus, Porter clearly does not include “communication means” as defined in amended Claim 1. Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 (and Claims 2 and 3 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Agraharam in view of Porter.

Independent Claims 5 and 12 recite similar elements to Claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 5 and 12 (and Claims 13 and 14 dependent therefrom) are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Agraharam in view of Porter, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 4 recites in part:

a communication step of transmitting the data acquired by the acquisition step simultaneously from the single shared server to all of those of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the single shared server and belonging to a same group.
(Emphasis added.)

As noted above, Agraharam describes a system where *only* terminals on a participation list receive the content, *not all of the terminals currently accessing a shared server*. Thus, Agraharam does not teach or suggest “transmitting the data acquired by the acquisition step simultaneously from the single shared server to *all of those of the information processing apparatuses currently accessing the single shared server* and belonging to a same group” as recited in amended Claim 4. As Porter does not cure the

⁴See Agraharam, paragraphs 27 and 36.

⁵See Porter, column 9, lines 19-31.

above noted deficiencies of Agraharam, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 4 is patentable over Agraharam in view of Porter.

Independent Claim 8 recites similar elements to Claim 4. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 8 is patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 4.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Agraharam in view of Porter and further in view of Erdelyi, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 6 recites in part:

requesting means for selecting content from the list of available content in the single window of the media player and requesting the service providing apparatus for transmission of the selected content to said information processing apparatus belonging to one of the plurality of groups and ***all of the other information processing apparatuses currently accessing the shared server*** belonging to a same group by activating a command in the single window of the media player.

(Emphasis added.)

As Agraharam describes a system where ***only*** terminals on a participation list receive the content, ***not all of the terminals currently accessing a shared server***, Agraharam does not teach or suggest “requesting means” as recited in amended Claim 6. Erdelyi describes a system for displaying video data to a ***single*** user. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Erdelyi also does not teach or suggest “requesting means” as recited in amended Claim 6. As Porter does not cure the above noted deficiencies of Agraharam, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 6 (and Claims 7 and 11 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Agraharam in view of Porter and further in view of Erdelyi.

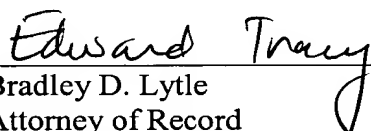
Independent Claims 9 and 15 recite similar elements to Claim 6. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 9 and 15 (and Claims 10, 16, and 17 dependent therefrom)

are patentable over Agraharam in view of Porter and further in view of Erdelyi for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 6.

Consequently, in light of the foregoing comments and present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-17 patentably defines over the asserted references. The present application is therefore believed to be in condition for formal allowance and an early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Edward Tracy
Registration No. 47,998